

Euphorbia peplus
petty spurge
Euphorbiaceae

Euphorbia peplus is an annual plant with glabrous stems that rise ascending to erect up to 4.5 dm in height. The petioled, glabrous leaves are 1-3.5 cm in length, with obovate to ovate blades. Leaf tips are obtuse to notched with entire margins. The inflorescences are bell-shaped and glabrous, and involucre are 1-1.5 mm across with a crescent-shaped two horned gland that is less than 0.5 mm in length. The fruits are spheric and glabrous, with 2 keeled lobes and the 4-angled, oblong seeds are white to gray with dots. *E. peplus* is native to Europe, but is now common in gardens and waste places below 300m throughout the California Floristic Province. This species also extends through Canada and the eastern U.S. (Koutnik 1993).

Koutnik, D.L. 1993. *Euphorbia*. Pp. 573-576 in The Jepson Manual: the Higher Plants of California. University of California Press, Berkeley.